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ORGANIZATION AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE  
WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION IN  
ILLINOIS, MASSACHUSETTS, NEW YORK, NORTH  
DAKOTA, OHIO, AND VIRGINIA.

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ILLINOIS

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BY MARY E. KUHLMAN,  
President.

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The present day work in the Illinois Woman's Christian Temperance Union is largely for law enforcement, wiser legislation and better morals in civic affairs.

More careful thought is being given to the training of the children and young people in total abstinence principles, in scientific temperance and purity; for we well know that the trained worker is needed to meet present conditions and voice the advanced thought on the "drink problem." No less attention is given to the teachings of a sober, clean life and its relation to the social, political and commercial interests of the nation, as well as that pertaining to the physical and moral life. That which has humanity value in it is of supreme moment in the economic and world problems which are woven and interwoven with this great prohibition cause. Illinois has had splendid victories this year, and is now working for a state prohibitory law that will banish the saloon not only from towns and counties, but from the entire state. Already 3,000,000 of her population of over 4,000,000 are living on prohibition territory. Thirty-five counties of the 102 are entirely dry, sixty-six partially dry, and the forces are moving on with great enthusiasm.

## MASSACHUSETTS

BY KATHARINE LENT STEVENSON.

State President.

The Massachusetts Woman's Christian Temperance Union was the direct outgrowth of the great "woman's crusade" which swept over the nation in the memorable winter of 1873 and '74, changing so permanently the entire nature of temperance work. The crusade never took on as large proportions in the east as in the west, nevertheless it was very active in some parts of New England and in Worcester, Massachusetts, it assumed almost the fervor and intensity it had in Ohio and Illinois. One of the most prominent leaders in the City of Worcester was Mrs. Susan S. Gifford, a saintly Quakeress, who led the forces into many thrilling scenes and who was chiefly instrumental in calling together the organizing convention which met in Worcester in October, 1874, a month prior to the organization of the national body. Mrs. Gifford was chosen president with practically a unanimous vote. She held the position for one year only.

The woman who was chiefly instrumental in the firm establishment of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union in Massachusetts was Mrs. Mary A. Livermore, then in the zenith of her power and fame. With a national and international reputation as one of the most brilliant platform speakers, in a day when the lecture platform was a power in the land, she nevertheless threw herself with all the enthusiasm of her nature into this new, struggling movement. She had first come into touch with the Crusade while on a lecture tour in Ohio, and did much to remove eastern prejudice by sending letters, during that entire winter, to the papers of Boston and the state. When she returned east she gave a graphic description of the movement in one of Boston's largest and most influential churches. From that time until the day of her death her voice, her pen and all her magnificent powers were always at the command of the Massachusetts Woman's Christian Temperance Union. At the second annual convention, held in Boston, in October, 1875, she was elected state president, which position she held for ten consecutive years. It is largely owing to her wide range of vision,

her quick sympathies and keen intellectual powers that the Massachusetts Woman's Christian Temperance Union was built upon so solid and so broad a foundation. Closely associated with her as state secretary during those years was Mrs. L. B. Barrett, a woman of great executive ability, who gave of herself unstintedly for more than ten years, until her death.

From the first some of the most noted names in the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union have been those of Massachusetts women. Mrs. Mary Clement Leavitt, first round-the-world missionary, was a Boston white ribboner; Mrs. Mary H. Hunt, leader of the scientific temperance forces for so many years, was another; Mrs. Helen G. Rice, for eighteen years the leader of the National Loyal Temperance Legion, is the state recording secretary. Mrs. Susan S. Fessenden, Dr. Louise C. Purington, Mrs. Mary G. Stuckenberg, Miss Eva K. Foster, Miss Lella M. Sewall, Miss Elizabeth P. Gordon, Miss Harriot T. Todd and Mrs. Harriet D. Walker are also among the past and present national workers of repute.

Following Mrs. Livermore, as executive officers of the state, have been Miss Elizabeth S. Tobey, who served for six years; Mrs. Susan S. Fessenden, eight years, and Mrs. Katharine Lent Stevenson who is just completing her tenth year as state president. The corresponding secretaries have been, after Mrs. Barrett, Miss Elizabeth P. Gordon, Mrs. Katharine Lent Stevenson, Mrs. Esther T. Housh, Mrs. Ruth B. Baker, Mrs. Harriet D. Walker, Mrs. Harriot T. Todd and Mrs. Janette Hill Knox. The present recording secretary, who has served for more than twenty years, is Mrs. Helen G. Rice, and the treasurer, Mrs. Isabel A. Morse. The work is centralized at state headquarters, 14 Beacon street, Boston, where the corresponding and office secretaries may always be found and where the president spends much of her time when not engaged in field work.

The organization is established in the larger part of the towns and cities of Massachusetts, there being at the present time about two hundred and fifty local unions. The counties are organized, their presidents being vice-presidents of the state. There is also an efficient corps of state superintendents who carry on work in the following departments: Work among foreigners, health and heredity, medical temperance, scientific temperance instruction, Sunday-

school work, temperance literature, institutes, the press, anti-narcotics, school savings banks, medal contest work, evangelistic, almshouse, penal and reformatory work, work among railroad employees, soldiers, sailors and lumbermen. Other activities are indicated by the following designations: Sabbath observance, mercy, purity, purity in literature and art, mothers' meetings, co-operation with missionary societies, social meetings and red-letter days, flower mission, settlement work, fairs and open air meetings, legislation, Christian citizenship, franchise, peace and arbitration. The superintendents of these departments, together with the general officers, the vice-presidents and the secretaries of the Young Women's and Loyal Temperance Legion Branches constitute the state executive committee. Regular meetings of this committee are held twice each year and at the call of the president when special occasion demands. The annual convention is held in October, and there is usually a state institute held in connection with the mid-year meeting of the executive committee. Each county holds at least two conventions each year and the majority hold three. These, taken in connection with the regular and special meetings of two hundred and fifty unions, are enough in themselves to make the Woman's Christian Temperance Union a powerful generator of public sentiment.

The most successful of department endeavors are the Frances E. Willard Settlement, founded by Miss Caroline M. Caswell, which, for ten years, has been doing a great work at the west end of Boston, and the Flower Mission, the largest in the world, which has reached its great proportions under the leadership of Mrs. S. W. Simpson. Twice in the history of the state it has entertained the national and twice the world's conventions. The last world's convention was held in Tremont Temple, Boston, in October, 1906, with delegates from twenty-one different nations. It was a brilliant success and has been a great power in its influence upon the work in many lands.

It is impossible to tabulate the work which has been accomplished. From the very first the organization has been active in legislative work throughout the state and has been instrumental in securing many good laws, as well as successful in its efforts against the passage of many bad ones. The law making compulsory the teaching of the physiological effects of alcohol and other narcotics

in the schools of the state was passed in 1885. An effort to amend it in 1898 and '99, was not successful, but a movement, inaugurated by the state president, to bring about a closer and more harmonious working between the educational and temperance forces has met with marked success and the law is being better carried out, both in spirit and in letter each year. The law raising the age of consent for girls was passed through the work of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. It was at first raised from 12 to 14,—though the petition asked for 18,—later, through the efforts of the society, it was raised to 16. The law forbidding the sale or gift of tobacco to minors was also brought about by this same indefatigable conservator of the home, as was the law against the sale of alcoholic confectionery. In the more recent campaigns against patent medicine frauds, the Woman's Christian Temperance Union has taken the lead and, though not securing all that was asked for, there has still been a substantial gain in that direction. The Woman's Christian Temperance Union led in the great fight for a prohibition amendment to the constitution in 1888, and has not failed in any of the years since to raise its voice in opposition to the liquor traffic under any guise.

The greatest social forces are those mighty, yet invisible ones which go to the creating of public sentiment. The very fact that, for thirty-four years, a body of women ten thousand strong, has stood in Massachusetts "for the protection of the home, for the abolition of the liquor traffic and for the triumph of Christ's golden rule in custom and in law," is, in itself, a potent force and a prophecy of speedy triumph. Tens of thousands of children have passed through the Loyal Temperance Legion in these years, educated in the faith that "the saloon must go" and they must help to make it go. We have not the record of the vast majority of these children. Doubtless many of them have forgotten their early training and fallen victims to the very foe they pledged themselves to fight, but we have indisputable proof that a great multitude of them is standing for temperance. One of the chief workers in the Anti-Saloon League of the state to-day, a lawyer of repute, was a Loyal Temperance Legion boy. An official at the state house is another. From all over the state and nation we receive the good tidings of the noble manhood and womanhood which is coming on to work for "purer manners, better laws," because of the principles engrained in their

very being through the work of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. Every other temperance society in the state cheerfully acknowledges that its own work would be sadly crippled if the Woman's Christian Temperance Union were to pass out of existence. The more than 18,000 majority for prohibition at the last Massachusetts election may, we believe, in some large part, be traced to our past and present efforts. The Massachusetts Woman's Christian Temperance Union will continue to work, without fear and without flinching from the straight line of duty, until the glad day of complete triumph over the liquor traffic.

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STATE OF NEW YORK

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BY FRANCES W. GRAHAM,  
President.

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The state organization was perfected on October 14, 1874, but the movement in the state began on December 15, 1873, when the women of Fredonia, N. Y., were moved to action by an address delivered by Dr. Dio Lewis. They began what is known the world over as the "Woman's Crusade," out of which came the present organization. The keynote for future work was struck at the first state convention, and many of the lines under which systematic work is being done to-day were then named as the topics for discussion and adopted as the future plan of work.

The first legislative work done was the presenting of memorials to President Grant and Governor Dix. The latter was memorialized by the local organization. The National organization formed in the following November was asked to present a similar petition to the President.

The first convention was marked by deep spiritual power, and no step was taken without the manifest guidance of the Holy Spirit. During the years that have passed since then this same guidance has been sought, and each year has found us farther on the way.

In 1894 a brief history of the first twenty years' work was compiled by the corresponding and recording secretaries, Mrs. Frances

W. Graham and Mrs. Georgeanna M. Gardenier, with a preface by the president, Mrs. Mary Towne Burt. This book of about one hundred pages gave in condensed form the chief efforts and accomplishments of the state organization. Much time and thought were spent in perfecting it, and it has proved a valuable hand-book for the workers during the fifteen years since it was compiled.

At the first annual meeting a form of pledge was appended to the constitution then recommended for local unions, but this form was used for a few years only, and in 1878 it was changed to read as follows:

"I hereby solemnly promise, God helping me, to abstain from all distilled, fermented, and malt liquors, including wine, beer and cider, as a beverage, and to employ all proper means to discourage the use of, and traffic in, the same."

In 1879 the words "as a beverage" were omitted, and the above pledge, with this change, is the one which is recommended to all local unions, and has stood so from 1879 until the present day. This is known as the "iron-clad" pledge.

Work among the children and young people was early recognized as one of the most important lines, and after years of faithful effort we can look back to the time of seed sowing, and forward to a rich and bountiful harvest yet to be, while we recognize with gratitude the fact that the present temperance agitation is but the rich fruitage of the work done in early days among the children and youth of our land. Homes have been founded on temperance principles, where the total abstinence pledge has safeguarded the boys and girls from temptation. Many a preacher of Christ's Gospel to-day learned his first temperance lesson in the juvenile society, later known as the Loyal Temperance Legion. Our young women and young men have, through our Young Woman's Branch learned not only the value of total abstinence in their lives and homes, but also the value of purity—and a "white life for two" has made the foundation of the home sweet, strong and true.

At the present time we have between thirty and forty different lines of work, each in charge of a specialist, all of which by whatever name called, center in the two cardinal principles of the organization—"total abstinence for the individual and total prohibition for the state and nation."

As early as 1877 a memorial had been prepared relative to tem-



perance teaching in the public schools, but not until 1884 was a law secured. The petitions circulated received nearly 60,000 signatures. In 1882 a petition with 10,431 names was presented to the legislature asking for a prohibitory constitutional amendment and a second petition was presented in 1883. From that time until the present the organization has continued to work along legislative lines, and the following will give some idea of the efforts put forth in our "do-everything policy" and of the good attempted and accomplished:

Scientific temperance instruction in public schools.

Prohibition of the giving or sale of cigarettes to boys under sixteen years.

Law raising "age of protection" for girls from twelve to sixteen and then to eighteen years.

Successful protest against the introduction of the English bar-maid system.

Successful demand for the enforcement of the law which prevented society women from serving liquor at Langtry tea.

Curfew laws through ordinances in at least seventy-five villages and cities in the state.

Assisted in securing the bill giving tax-paying women the right to vote in towns and villages on propositions submitted to taxpayers.

Erection of drinking fountain on the Pan-American grounds.

Maintenance of Mary Towne Burt free bed in the National Temperance Hospital in Chicago.

Assisted in securing anti-canteen law in national congress.

Prohibition of the sale of liquor on state and county fair grounds.

Prevented legislation looking to legal opening of the saloons of New York on Sunday.

Assisted in securing the passage of the bill prohibiting the sale of liquors in government buildings and at Ellis Island.

In 1900 the State Woman's Christian Temperance Union had a bill drawn up and presented to the legislature, to provide for local option in cities. Every year since then a similar bill with changes and modifications, has been introduced through the efforts of the Anti-Saloon League; in the effort to secure its passage the State Woman's Christian Temperance Union has heartily co-operated.

In every campaign for "no license" the Woman's Christian Temperance Union has been an important factor.

Thirty-four state conventions have been held in as many years and the thirty-fifth will be held at Poughkeepsie, October 2d to 6th, inclusive. From a small beginning the membership has increased until now it numbers nearly 30,000, each year showing an increase in achievement as well as in membership. Every county is organized and under most efficient leadership. Our official organ, "Woman's Temperance Work," has grown to be a necessity as one of the tools with which to do our work, and in addition to its influence in that particular, it has for many years been self-sustaining through its subscription list.

Our annual report covers about 300 pages of closely-printed matter, and a file of these reports is a temperance encyclopedia, without which we could not carry on our work. In addition to these helps, the state issues a hand-book which is of great value to the local workers. We have about 1,000 local societies, each auxiliary to its own county organization, all of them auxiliary to the State, National and World's Woman's Christian Temperance Unions by the payment of dues, divided according to the constitution. The local union is the foundation upon which the entire organization stands, and while some must of necessity be chosen as leaders, and all such are more or less prominent, yet it is only by the faithful consecrated efforts of the rank and file that this work has been accomplished and our cause advanced.

That there is still need of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union in the Empire State goes without saying, and so long as a single legalized saloon does business within its borders, the women will stand by the pledge adopted at Fredonia in 1873, which reads:

"We pledge ourselves to *united* and *continuous* effort to suppress the traffic in intoxicating liquors, . . . *until this work be accomplished.*"

## NORTH DAKOTA

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BY ELIZABETH PRESTON ANDERSON.

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The State Woman's Christian Temperance Union is an integral part of the national organization. Its general officers correspond to those of the mother organization and are members of its annual convention. Its president is a vice-president of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union and a member of its executive committee. While each state carries out the plans of the national organization, the greatest freedom is allowed in the origination of plans and methods of work. The states are at liberty to adopt or reject such departments as they choose from the forty departments of work undertaken by the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union. In questions concerning state policies which do not conflict with the principles of the national organization, each state is a law unto itself.

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union of North Dakota was originally a part of the Territorial Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Dakota. This organization, under the leadership of Mrs. Helen M. Barker, was an important factor in securing constitutional prohibition for the new states of North and South Dakota.

When, in 1889, the Territory of Dakota was divided and two states admitted into the Union, the Territorial Woman's Christian Temperance Union was divided at the convention held at Yankton, South Dakota, Miss Frances E. Willard and Miss Anna A. Gordon being present, and the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of North Dakota was organized with Miss Addie M. Kinnear president. After four years of faithful service, which resulted in failing health, she was succeeded by the writer, who is still serving in that capacity.

The new organization was launched in the midst of a prohibition campaign, and its history has been a series of campaigns for the retention and enforcement of the prohibition law and the securing of other laws for the protection of the homes and youth of the new commonwealth.

The greatest work accomplished by the Woman's Christian  
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Temperance Union of North Dakota is the work that cannot be tabulated. The greatest forces in this organization, as everywhere in the universe, are the silent unseen forces. The unit of power which stands back of the local, county and state organizations is the local union, usually a little company of women banded together for the destruction of the liquor traffic and the protection of the home. They study the literature of the organization, broaden the horizon of their own lives, and thus make truer, wiser, wives and mothers, and purer, happier homes; gather the children into Loyal Temperance Legions and etch upon their plastic brains the principles of total abstinence and eternal hatred of the liquor traffic. They build up in the community, by personal work, medal contests, circulation of literature, the use of the press, and addresses from national workers, a vigorous public sentiment that demands the enforcement of law. It is nearly all quiet work, much of it beneath the surface, but it is that which counts mightily in the building of the commonwealth. Without these local unions the state organization would be powerless. When an effort is being made to secure desired legislation, word is passed to the county and local unions. The question is agitated, sentiment is aroused, petitions, letters and telegrams besiege representatives until they realize that their constituents are awake and demanding action on their part.

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union of North Dakota has for eleven years owned its state paper, "The White Ribbon Bulletin," which was founded by the late Mrs. Mattie Van de Bogart, and is now edited by Mrs. R. M. Pollock. This paper not only gives the progress of the work in the state, but also serves as a medium of communication between the state officers and superintendents, and the rank and file of the local union. The state has adopted twenty-seven of the forty departments of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union, beside the Young Woman's Branch and the Loyal Temperance Legion branches. At the head of each of these is a woman who is a specialist in her line, who receives plans and suggestions from the national superintendent of her department, and passes these with her own suggestions to the county and local superintendents. From their reports, which are sent in at the close of the year, she collates her report, to be presented at the state convention and sent on to the national superintendent.

For fifteen years the state organization has maintained a home

for needy women, where shelter, food and clothing, and what is more, love, and the bread of life, have been given to homeless, sorrowing, and sin-sick souls. Many of these have found peace in the forgiveness of their sins and have gone out to lead upright lives. Owing to the increasing demands of temperance work, this home has recently been turned over to the National Florence Crittenton Mission, which will continue to carry on the work.

There has been paid into the state treasury for state work over \$60,000. This does not represent the amount of money raised by the local unions, but merely what has been paid into the state treasury. Every active union raises for local work a much larger amount than it pays into the state treasury. Probably \$150,000 would be a conservative estimate of the money raised and expended by the unions of the state since its organization. The membership has increased nearly 300 per cent.

The state organization has usually kept its president at the capital city during the legislative assemblies. Thousands of signatures to petitions against resubmission have been secured, and also against the lottery during that memorable fight, and it is believed that the defeat of the lottery in North Dakota sounded its death knell in the United States. The following laws have been secured through the efforts of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union: Scientific temperance instruction in the public schools, physical education in the public schools, health and decency law, law defining intoxicating liquors, increasing the penalty for Sabbath breaking, and raising the age of consent to eighteen years. The organization has also been an important factor in securing a number of other laws, among them the law prohibiting impure literature, law prohibiting the sale of cigarettes or tobacco in any form to minors under sixteen, the amended druggist's law, and the repeal of the ninety-days' divorce law.

When the proposed constitutional convention was voted upon, which, if carried, would have given an opportunity to change the constitution by leaving out the prohibition clause, and which it was believed was the real purpose of the call, the Woman's Christian Temperance Union published an appeal to voters showing good reasons why such a convention should not be held at that time, and ten thousand of these were put into circulation. The proposition was defeated.

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union took the initiative in the fight against a candidate for re-election for governor who was not in sympathy with the enforcement of the prohibition law. Although he had been elected two years previous by a majority of 35,000 votes, he was defeated and a Democratic governor who was in favor of the prohibition law and its enforcement was elected by 7,000 majority. The State Woman's Christian Temperance Union has not hesitated to enter a political campaign when prohibition or any other great moral question was at issue. A fight was made in the primaries this summer against a candidate for United States Senator. His record in the state legislature for twenty years on temperance and moral questions was compiled and scattered broadcast over the state, and helped to make sure his defeat.

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union was instrumental in securing the organization of the State Enforcement League, upon whose executive committee are some of the leading business and professional men of the state, notably Hon. Robert M. Pollock, Mr. Frank Lynch, and Mr. R. B. Griffith. This organization has been a power for the enforcement of the prohibition law.

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union while preserving the integrity of its organization, has worked in harmony with the Enforcement League, the Good Templars, the Scandinavian Total Abstinence Society, the Prohibition party and the churches, and in this union of purpose and work has been the strength of prohibition in North Dakota.

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OHIO

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BY FRANCES H. ENSIGN,  
President.

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The first meeting of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union in Ohio was held on June 17, 1874. The organization was the outgrowth of the "women's crusade" against the saloon that began in 1873 and was pushed with vigor during that and the following year. The effective results of that crusade by which saloons were

eliminated from 250 Ohio towns and by which the advocates of the liquor traffic were prevented from repealing the "no-license clause" of the state constitution showed what could be accomplished by effective organization of the sentiment against the open saloon.

The Ohio Woman's Christian Temperance Union was the first state society formed; indeed, it antedates the national society, which held its first meeting November 19, 1874. The idea of a national Woman's Christian Temperance Union is said to have been originated by Mrs. Mattie McClellan Brown, who, together with Mrs. Jennie Fowler Willing and others, issued the call for the first national convention to meet in Cleveland, Ohio.

The activities of the Ohio Woman's Christian Temperance Union have been carried on continuously for thirty-five years, during which it has developed a highly effective association, including thirty-three departments of work, comprising educational, preventive, legal, organization, and evangelical activities. There are 26,000 members in the state. The state organ is the "Ohio Messenger," published at Columbus and edited by Lillian A. Burt. The circulation is ten thousand copies. During the present year the organization has printed and distributed from its state headquarters over one and a half million pages of literature.

The educational work of the society is largely responsible for the following results:

1. The enactment by the state legislature of a law requiring scientific instruction as to the effects of alcohol upon the human system.

2. The passage of a law raising the age of consent for the protection of young girls.

3. The enactment of four local option laws by which the electors of a township, a county, a city or a residential section of a city may prohibit the open saloon.

4. The present situation as regards the liquor traffic in Ohio, which is as follows: There are 1,150 dry townships, over 500 dry villages and cities and many dry residential districts within the larger cities. Twenty counties have banished the saloon and elections will be held soon in twenty more, under the new county option law. More than one-half of the population of the state is now living in dry territory.

5. The work of the society has laid the foundations for the

very effective activities being carried on by the Anti-Saloon League, the organization which is now leading in the enactment of laws for the ultimate elimination of the saloon.

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VIRGINIA

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BY SARA H. HOGE,  
President.

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The Virginia Woman's Christian Temperance Union, auxiliary to the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union, was organized in the City of Richmond in 1883. The constitution of the society states that the object of the organization is "to make permanent the work already accomplished by women in the temperance cause, and to inaugurate wise and effective measures for bringing to bear the moral and religious power of women against the cruelty and crime of the liquor traffic in our state."

In 1883 liquor was sold generally over the state in the country districts as well as in the towns and cities and freely used, and there were but a few women interested in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. But by earnest work and careful presentation of the cause the organization has grown till now there is an active membership of about 4,000. With local organizations scattered over the state, working systematically to agitate and educate, it is small wonder that temperance sentiment has advanced, till social drinking is the exception rather than the rule in the Old Dominion.

In 1886 the state local option law was passed. From that time to this there has been a fierce contest between the temperance forces and liquor forces in trying to win and hold the territory. The state law allows a local option election to be held every two years, and many places avail themselves of this opportunity frequently, unless the question has been settled beyond all doubt.

In 1902 the state liquor law was amended by the Mann law, providing that before a license can be issued in towns and counties it must be proved:

1. That the place is "one at which police protection is afforded."



2. "That the majority of the qualified voters of the district or town are in favor of the application."

3. "That the sale of ardent spirits at that place will not be contrary to a sound public policy, or injurious to the morals or the material interest of the community."

Last winter the legislation was further amended by the Byrd law, which brought the small country distilleries under the provisions of the Mann law and made it illegal for social clubs to dispense liquor in territory where retail liquor licenses cannot be granted.

In securing these laws the women of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union have done much in circulating petitions among the voters of the state and in thus helping the legislators to "hear from home." The results show that their work has been most successful.

Through the local option elections and operation of the Mann and Byrd laws there are left but 850 saloons in the state, the majority of these being in Richmond, Norfolk, Newport News, Hampton and Petersburg. Of the 162 incorporated towns in the state only eleven have saloons. Thirteen others have dispensaries. Eighty of the 100 counties have no saloons in the country districts and fifty are completely dry. Eight of the nineteen cities have no legalized saloon.

In all the local option elections held where we have local organizations the women have done their part in the agitation. But the chief work of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union is educational—distributing temperance literature, holding public meetings, holding elocutionary contests with strong temperance and prohibition selections, using the press, and in every possible way getting the people to *think* on the evil of the drink habit and liquor traffic.

The subject of teaching, from a scientific standpoint in the public schools, the effect of alcohol and other narcotics on the human system was taken up, and in 1890, at the solicitation of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, the State Board of Education made a ruling that wherever physiology and hygiene were taught, books should be used that included the physiological consequences of alcoholic drinks. In 1900 a state law was enacted which required this teaching to be placed along with reading, writing, etc.,

in the obligatory studies. No department of work is more far-reaching in its results than this public-school teaching of the boys and girls—our future citizens and homemakers.

To enlist the children as a working force our organization has a children's branch, known as the Loyal Temperance Legion. To become full members of this the children sign the pledge not only against the use of liquor but also against the use of tobacco and profanity. They have their own business meetings and help in the general agitation. They are especially effective in singing their temperance songs.

Among the accomplishments of the Virginia Woman's Christian Temperance Union the following may be noted:

In the early days of our state organization it secured the appointment of a matron for the state penitentiary. She has oversight of the women.

At the penitentiary and in many jails and almshouses evangelistic services are occasionally held under the auspices of some of the local unions. Visits to hospitals and soldiers and sailors on ships and in the barracks are also made.

Effective work has been done in Norfolk and vicinity by regular meetings at the barracks and on board ships in Hampton Roads. Many barrels of literature have been sent to the forts and placed on ships.

Great advance has been made in securing use of unfermented wine at sacrament in many of the churches.

In some sections of the state mothers' meetings are regularly held, where all discuss freely the best ways of bringing up the boys and girls to become true men and women.

In 1906 the special new work taken up by the state organization was the maintenance of rest rooms for soldiers and sailors at Phoebus. A good woman was in charge and made a home-like place to attract the young men, who otherwise might have frequented the many saloons bidding for their presence.

In 1907 rest rooms were maintained at the Jamestown Exposition. In these rooms was placed the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union exhibit, and a hostess received all visitors. One of the rooms had several cots, where tired women could rest. The other room was comfortably furnished with couch and chairs, where all were welcome. Much literature was distributed from this place.

In addition to the circulation of leaflets and other literature the State Woman's Christian Temperance Union publishes its own paper, the "Virginia Call," which keeps interested persons posted on general temperance news, and aims to strengthen and enlarge the work of the organization.

In educating against the *use* of liquor in the home as well as against the sale of liquor, the Virginia Woman's Christian Temperance Union hopes to make it easier to enforce the laws against its sale. Its work has not been very showy. It has been quietly and steadily preparing the way for state prohibition, and the society feels that the time has now come for the adoption of such a measure. With the larger part of the state "dry" under local option law, it would seem that the whole state should banish the curse of the liquor traffic from its borders. Indeed the day is not far distant when Virginia will follow the example of Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and North Carolina.